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SDI Reports: Number of Flu Vaccines Given in Physicians' Offices Lower This Season; The Number of Vaccines Given After Thanksgiving Has Not Rebounded

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Despite recommendations from the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) that healthcare providers encourage influenza vaccination throughout the flu season, the number of flu vaccines given in physicians' offices is lower at this point in the 2008-2009 season than in the previous two seasons, according to SDI's VaccineTrack(TM). The flu season typically begins in the fall and does not peak until January or February most years.

SDI's VaccineTrack(TM) provides weekly tracking of vaccine administration in physicians' offices based on nationally projected data from electronic office medical claims. VaccineTrack(TM) reports current utilization of injectable flu vaccine by patient and provider demographics including medical specialty, patient age range and gender. Encounters can also be segmented by whether vaccine recipients fall into high health risk versus no health risk categories.

Data from VaccineTrack(TM) to date for the 2008-2009 season also shows that the number of flu vaccines given in physician offices has not rebounded after Thanksgiving as it has the past two seasons.

SDI maintains the largest influenza monitoring program in the United States and has tracked, measured, and forecasted the number of people affected by cough, cold, influenza and other upper respiratory conditions to assist clients and consumers alike for over 25 years.

About SDI

Since 1982, SDI has been delivering innovative healthcare data products and analytic services to the pharmaceutical, biotech, healthcare, medical device, financial services, and consumer packaged goods industries. SDI is the leading provider of de-identified patient-level data analytics and offers a broad array of solutions and insights across the continuum of care. These include custom and syndicated patient-level data studies; localized disease and treatment surveillance and projection; market research audits; healthcare profiles; comprehensive managed care offerings; clinical trial optimization; direct-to-patient pharmacy programs; marketing effectiveness; sales targeting and compensation products; data integration, warehousing, and mining; list services; and direct marketing services. Its current roster includes the top 50 pharmaceutical/biotech companies. For more information, visit www.sdihealth.com or call 610.834.0800.

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